citizens, to invest those bodies with power to raise the necessary funds and to make them responsible for the proper sanitation and improvement of the urban areas entrusted to their care. The Bill which I seek permission to introduce is framed chiefly on the lines of the Madras District Municipalities Act. The proposed Municipal Councils will have much larger powers and responsibilities than the present committees, and their Chairmen and Secretaries will have full executive powers.

The Town Fund will be composed not only of all moneys which may be transferred by Government for purposes of local administration but also of moneys which may be raised by taxes and all rents and profits recovered by the Municipal Councils, and all fines, fees and penalties paid or levied under the proposed law. The funds of the Municipalities will be applied by the Municipal Councils to the construction, repair and maintenance of streets, bridges and other means of communication, the construction, maintenance and repair of hospitals, dispensaries, lunatic asylums, poor-houses, markets, drains, sewers, latrines, waterworks, tanks, wells, recreation grounds, gardens, parks, and other works of public utility, the training and employment of medical practitioners and vaccinators, the sanitary inspection of towns and villages, the registration of births and deaths, the watering and the lighting of streets, the cleansing of streets, tanks, wells, drains, sewers, latrines, and other works of a similar nature, the planting and preservation of trees, the diffusion of education and other measures of public utility calculated to promote the safety, health, comfort or convenience of the people. The Bill contains provision defining the duties of the Municipal Council relative to the fulfilment of the above objects, as also provisions regulating the collection of taxes, compulsory vaccination, house-building and various other matters. I hope that it will, if passed, result in a distinct advance being made in Municipal Government and will tend to secure for our towns better sanitation, better water-supply, better roads, better lighting and better means of improvement in various directions.

Permission was granted accordingly.

STEAM-BOILERS AND PRIME-MOVERS BILL.

Mr. Mahadeva Iyer.—I beg to apply for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the inspection and control of Steam-boilers and Prime-movers in Travancore on the lines of Madras Act III of 1893. The want of such an enactment has been already felt in connection with the steam boat service in North Travancore. For some years past there has been a regular steam boat service between Cochin and Alleppey and from Alleppey to Kottayam and it has recently been extended to Quilon. With the opening of the Tinnevelly-Quilon railway a fresh impetus has been given to the development of steam navigation along our backwaters and canals, and several enterprising firms have turned their attention to this line of business. In July 1902 the Dewan Peishkar of Kottayam (Mr. Padmanabha Iyer) brought to the notice of Government the unsatisfactory condition of the steam boats plying between Alleppey and Cochin and urged the necessity for having the boilers and boats examined. Government issued orders to have them examined by the Executive Engineer of the Northern Division, but though three years have elapsed since the order was issued the examination has not yet been fully carried out. Several causes have contributed to this delay, but the most important of them is the want of a legislative enactment to enforce such examination or to suspend the steam boat service on failure of the Company to submit their boats for examination within the prescribed time. The present Dewan Peishkar of Kottayam has now reported to Government that nothing can be done unless a special enactment is passed. It is not merely on account of the steam boat service that the special enactment is called for. There are a large number of factories in which steam power is used. It is necessary in the interests of the public that all steam boilers and prime-movers now in use or which may hereafter be introduced should be subjected to periodical, professional examination in view to test their soundness and safety. I shall not trouble the Council with any further remarks. If the permission I seek be granted, I shall place before the Council a Bill drafted on the lines of Madras Act III of 1893 which contains a few simple provisions regulating the periodical inspection of boilers and prime-movers, the issue of licenses and certificates of competency of persons entrusted with the management of boilers and the usual penalties for infringement of the law.

Permission was granted accordingly.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

CIVIL COURTS REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Vieyra.—At the meeting of the Council held on the 15th April last, I applied for and obtained permission to introduce a Bill to amend the Civil Courts Regulation I of 1057, as amended by Regulation I of 1077. In pursuance of that permission I beg to introduce the Bill to-day. Under Rule 31 of the Rules for the conduct of business in the Council, the Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons has been published in the Gazette and I understand that copies have been forwarded to the members. Fifteen clear days having elapsed since the publication of the Bill as required by Rule 33, I beg to move that the Bill be read in Council. The second para of the Rule just quoted permits the discussion of the principle of the Bill at this meeting; but I do not propose to ask you to take up that discussion to-day as I consider it desirable that, in view of the importance of the measure, more time should be allowed for a study of the modifications of the existing law, which have been drafted into the Bill.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

The motion was put and agreed to.

HIGH COURT REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Vieyra:—At the same meeting of the Council leave was granted to me to introduce another Bill to amend the High Court Regulation I of 1067. This Bill with the Statement of Objects and Reasons has also been published in the Gazette and circulated among the members. The provisions in regard to the introduction of Bills laid down in sections 31 and 33 of the Rules for the conduct of business have been satisfied and I, therefore, beg to introduce the Bill and move that it be read in Council. This is also an important measure and I would propose that the discussion of the principle be taken up at a future meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Mahadeva Iyer.

The motion was put and agreed to.

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS BILL.

Mr. Nagam Aiya.—Before the Council proceeds, Sir, to the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on the Charitable Endowments Bill, I have to draw their attention to the following salient points in it:

(1) That the Bill is in the main only an adaptation of the British Indian Act VI of 1890 and a necessary sequel of the Hindu Religious Endowments Regulation III of 1079;

(2) That the scope of this Bill is narrower than the British Indian enactment, out of regard to the feelings of our Mahomedan and Christian communities;

(3) That the Officer called the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments in Travancore will be a bare trustee and will have absolutely nothing to do with the administration of the property; he will be in charge of the income of the Endowments which will be handed over to the persons administering them;

(4) That the Bill enables the Dewan, on complaints made by any person interested in a Charitable Endowment, to order the vesting of the property of the Endowment in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments and settle a scheme for its administration and enjoins further that no action shall be taken by him under this section except after a full enquiry;

(5) That the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments should periodically publish in the Gazette the list of all properties vested in him and an abstract of all accounts he keeps;

(6) That the right of remedy reserved to the public by section 511 of the Civil Procedure Code shall continue; and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly